

REMARKS

The Official Action states that the reply filed December 28, 2004 is not fully responsive to the Official Action of October 4, 2004 because the reply does not address claims 20 and 23.

However, the reply does address claims 20 and 23 in the Remarks section in the discussion of the rejection of claims 1-38. As noted therein, the amended method claims (claims 20 and 23 are method claims) provide that the recited steps are claimed "in order." Note specifically that claims 20 and 23 were amended to include the words "in order." As further explained in the reply, the step of reserving the IP address comes before the step of authenticating the subscriber terminal. As explained in the last paragraph of page 5 and the first paragraph on page 6 of the application, the prior art, in which the reservations were requested after authentication (Figures 2-3), caused a telephone connection charge to be made even when the connection could not be made, while the claimed method avoids this charge by changing the order of the steps. LEWIS discloses a system that appears to be similar to that of the admitted prior art of Figures 2-3. As noted at column 30, lines 46-48, the server authenticates the call and assigns the IP address. As explained in the reply, the reference does not disclose the method steps that are claimed "in order" in claims 20 and 23.

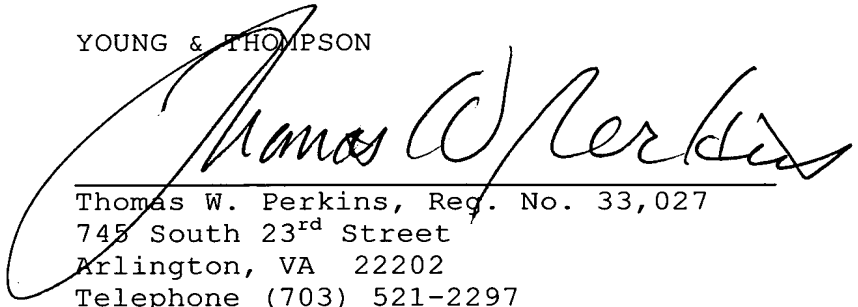
Accordingly, the reply of December 28, 2005 was fully responsive to the Official Action of October 4, 2004.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Thomas W. Perkins". The signature is written over a horizontal line that separates it from the printed contact information below.

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